

Think The Unthinkable: strategies in Latvia

29th EBLIDA Annual Conference

European Structural Funds and libraries: the win-win approach

11 June 2021



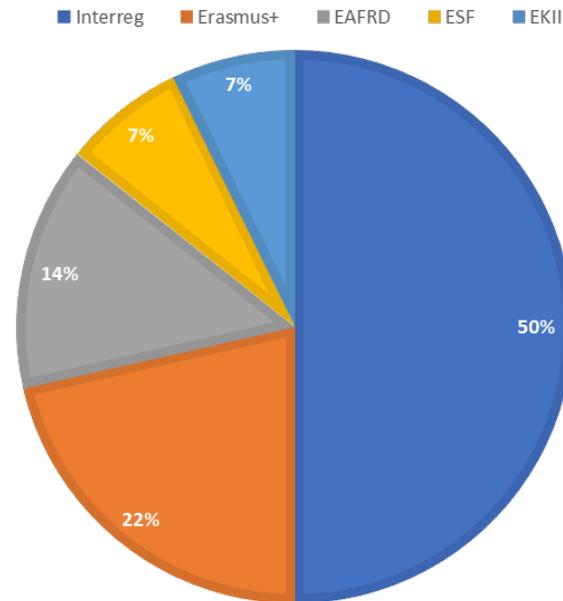
Katrīna Kukaine

Director of the Development department
the National Library of Latvia

Public libraries in Latvia and ESIF 2014-2020

Most used ESIF by public libraries in Latvia:

- Interreg V-A
- Erasmus+
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
- European Social Fund
- EU Emission Allowance Auction Instrument (EKII)



Ludza city library: Interreg project «Introduction of innovative interactive methods for improvement of town nature objects and formation of a more environment-friendly awareness in the society and nature tourism sector in Latgale and Pskov regions»

Number of public libraries in Latvia 770



Public libraries in Latvia and ESIF

2014-2020

thematic breakdown of projects



Erasmus+ «Local and International Active Seniors» in Gulbene county library



Socially responsible measures: reducing social isolation, social integration of children from disadvantaged families, promotion of voluntary work for people aged 50+, promotion of public health



Infrastructure (construction of library building, improvement of premises and new equipment)



Education and skills (non-formal education programs, professional development, skills acquisition, eg digital, local heritage research)



Innovative or new services (interactive event forms, digitisation, contactless and remote services)



Creation and promotion of the local environment (environment and nature tourism, public spaces)

Public libraries in Latvia and ESIF 2014-2020



Reconstruction of the Ogre Central Library from the Emission Allowance Auction Instrument using **innovative low-carbon technologies**.



European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development Rural Development Program in Latvia 2014-2020

Laubere library in cooperation with Laubere parish administration project "Garden of feelings and leisure"



© Laubere library



ESIF 2021-2027: Role of libraries is changing

Quotes from libraries survey:

- The role of the library system in the national context in Latvia is growing.
- Libraries as actors - not only in the field of culture and cultural heritage, but also in the fields of education, science, social integration, municipal affairs, civic activity and social welfare, development of information and communication technologies.
- SDG expands the role of libraries - deepens and creates wider, more versatile activities.
- Libraries - a place to learn to work with information so that people become more educated with logical, critical thinking.
- Libraries would not only be information providers, but - in the eyes of the public and local governments - institutions they rely on and whose role as a public education center is not questioned.

← ESF “Implementation of Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Measures in Ludza Region”, partner Ludza city library



National Development Plan of
Latvia for 2021-2027

National Cultural Policy
Guidelines 2021-2027

Latvian Digital
Transformation Guidelines
for 2021-2027

Regional Policy Guidelines
2021-2027

Other policies: education,
science, language,
promotion of democracy

ESIF 2021-2027 and libraries in Latvia

In Latvia - European Union Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund Operational Programme 2021-2027 - still under discussion.

Some priorities (important for libraries) – can be attributed to SDG

- ✓ expansion of the role of culture and tourism in economic development
- ✓ social inclusion and social innovations, promoting social integration in society and decreasing social inequality with the help of cultural experience and services.
- ✓ integration of current social themes in the provision of culture, supporting broader digitisation.
- ✓ improvement of services – life learning, digital skills, e-services.
- ✓ involvement of society in cultural processes and promotion of public participation
- ✓ role of the public libraries in Latvia within the framework of a joint provision of services. The principle of a “One stop agency” (OSA) in the provision of services – both face-to-face and digital – has been set as a Latvian government priority.

DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Thank You for Your attention!

